Dam Failures in the country

*88. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the second largest number of dam failures;

(b) if so, what is India's share in world figures.

(c) what is the total number of dam failures in India till date alongwith factors contributing to the failures; and

(d) whether Govt. propose to be benefited by Japanese experience which has largest number of dams in the world with lowest failure rate?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) As per information published in 1974 by Inter National Commission on Large Dams, 13 dams are reported to have failed in India against 117 failures in United States of America and 202 failures in the World.

(c) However, as per information compiled by Central Water Commission upto March 1993, 27 cases of dam failures have been reported in the country during this century. The main factors responsible for the failures have been identified as floods exceeding spillay capacity and overtopping.

(d) While designing the dams experience of all countries and the latest technological developments in the field are taken into account.

Reorientation of the Total Literacy Campaign

*89. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to reorient the total literacy campaign in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Alarming situation in the Farm Sector

*90. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the 'Patriot' dated 7th April, 1993, captioned 'Farm Sector situation alarming' to the effect that while prices of almost all commodities produced by farm sector have fallen steeply, the prices of other consumer goods purchased by the farm sector have shot up;

(b) if so, what is Governments reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps have been taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The Government is aware of the fact that there has been steep fall in prices of certain agricultural commodities. It is also a fact that there has been increase in the prices of certain commodities like fertilisers, diesel, etc. purchased by the farm sector.

(b) and (c) The Government has noted with concern this trend in prices and has taken various measures to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce. The

Minimum Support Prices (MSP) fixed by the Government have been significantly enhanced recently and the Food Corporation of India has expanded its procurement operations. In the case of commodities which are not covered under MSP, the market intervention Scheme is being operated through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation. Further, the Government have announced a series of concessions to offset the impact of increase the prices of fertilisers.

Tornado in Murshidabad distict of West Bengal

*91. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a tornado lashed five villages near Kandi in Murshidbad district in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the extent of loss of life and property caused thereby;

(c) whether any relief has been provided by Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof. and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government to rehabilitate the affected villages and also to see that the people are forwarned about such natural calamities in future?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (e) A tornado hit some areas on 3th April, 1993 in 5 villages in Kandi Sub-Division of Murshidabad. The extent of damage to life and property as reported by Government of West Bengal is as under:—

Number of persons died .	49
Number of persons injured .	630
Number of cattle dead .	414
Number of houses damaged .	1883
Cropped area affected . .	450 hectares

Rs. 12.00 lakhs has been provided to the Government of West Bengal from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for providing relief @ Rs 20,000|- each to the families of deceased in the tornado. Besides Rs. 10,000|- has been sanctioned to the families of each deceased from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund apart from providing relief to the affected families in the form of utensils. tarpaulins, clothing, milk, dry food and other materials.

The State Government has prepared a Scheme for reconstruction of houses damaged during this calamity. In addition, an amount of Rs. 742 lakhs has been sanctioned by Government of West Bengal as housing grant for the damaged houses.

According to information received from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) there is no method of issuing tornado warnings indicating exact time and place of occurrence sufficiently in advance as these are very short-lived transient phenomena with random occurrences. India Meteorological Department issues only thunderstorm warnings whenever such situations are expected.

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा रानी दुर्गावती विश्वविद्यालय जबलपुर को अनुदान

*92. श्री शिव प्रसाद हरदिया : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान रानी दुर्गावती विश्वविद्यालय जबलपुर को विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा प्रदान की गई धनराशि का मद-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) विकास अनुदान मद के अन्तर्गत प्रदान की गई राशि में से किस उपकरण का आयात किया गया है और उस के आयात पर कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा व्यय की गई है ; और

(ग) विश्वविद्यालय में आयातित उपकरण का उपयोग किस प्रकार किया जा रहा है ?